

efforts and support. I know next season will bring even more to celebrate.

In this spirit, I ask that an article from The Buffalo News, be printed in the RECORD.

[From the Buffalo News, June 23, 1999]

RALLY FOR SABRES PROVES BUFFALO HAS
SOMETHING SPECIAL

It was noon Tuesday and they streamed into Niagara Square from all directions. White-haired men and middle-aged ladies and mothers pushing strollers made the pilgrimage down Niagara Street, Franklin Street, Delaware Avenue.

They came, in all colors and sizes. Shirt-and-tie businessmen, smooth-skinned teens wearing black-and-red jerseys with Hasek or Peca stitched across the back, little kids holding their mother's hand. They came in cars, on bikes, on Rollerblades. They all came downtown, washed in the summer sun, because this is Buffalo and sometimes you win even when you lose.

They crowded in front of City Hall, more than 20,000 of them. Men in business suits climbed atop the marble railings of the McKinley Monument. Dozens stood on the roofs of the Federal Court Building and the Buffalo Athletic Center and the Turner Parking Ramp.

They do not have rallies for teams that lose in most cities.

Most cities are not Buffalo.

A lot of people around the country would read that and say "Thank God."

I ran into one of them on a plane to Dallas a couple of weeks ago. She said she was going home and asked where I was from. When I told her, she said, "Why would anybody want to live there?"

Lady, this is why.

Yes, there are things wrong with this place and I don't just mean high taxes. A streak of negativity runs through some folks. Our so-called leaders habitually put self-interest ahead of our interest. We get told we're the pits so often we sometimes forget this is a truly nice place to live.

But there's a sense of community here, a shared bond, you don't find in most other places, at least not most other places I've been. It's a hard thing to prove, but then a day like Tuesday comes and there it is, 20,000 people for all the world to see.

They didn't come to this rally for a hockey team that lost in the Stanley Cup finals because Buffalo loves a loser or likes to cry in its Genesee Cream Ale.

They came because this team carried the city's name on its jerseys the way we want it to be carried.

They came not to lament what might have been, but to celebrate what was.

The hockey team was a lot like the town, overlooked and underappreciated. Yet they left team after supposedly better team dazed and bleeding by the side of the road. They finally got beat—with the help of officials too gutless to enforce the rules—by a tough, character-laden Dallas team many expected would swat them aside like a bothersome fly. Instead, the Sabres took them to their limit, made them sweat and ache and pay for every pass and shot and goal they got—and even one they didn't.

At the end, after absorbing a mind-boggling 82 hits in the final game, the Dallas trainer compare their locker room to a M.A.S.H. unit. Some Dallas players took intravenous fluids between the overtime periods of the 5½-hour game; a half-dozen ended the series with torn ligaments or other damage.

You lay a team out like that and end up losing—losing on a tainted goal—and it doesn't mean you're losers. It means time

ran out, fate didn't smile, the story is To Be Continued next season. If these guys had any doubt about that, 20,000 people Tuesday told them otherwise.

They didn't abandon a team that tried mightily and never backed down and came up an illegally placed skate short. Just like you don't stop loving your kid or your brother or best friend. That's not the way it works around here.

Diana and Nicole Jarosz, 21 and 18, came down 90 minutes early so they could be close to the stage. They have lived in Buffalo all their lives and they could not imagine not coming to this.

"We're here to say we still love you and we're still proud of you," said Diana. "As hard as (Saturday night) was for us, I can't imagine how hard it must have been sitting on the (players') bench."

We don't want to pick on Dallas, but it's a town of shameless front-runners. Some folks were interviewed in downtown Dallas a couple of weeks ago, before this series started. One of them said, "If this team starts losing, people will drop them like a hot poker."

Well, this Buffalo team lost early Sunday morning, and most folks just held them closer.

The Stars won the Cup, and all of 150 people showed up to meet their plane at the airport. Buffalo lost it, and 20,000 came out to say, "Thanks for the ride."

The players seemed genuinely touched by it all, at times nudging each other and grinning when the crowd went nuts, or waving to the kids in Sabres jerseys sitting on their dads' shoulders.

"We really didn't expect that kind of excitement," said team captain Michael Peca afterwards. "This is not a city that forgets (about) you, absolutely not."

Dallas has a pewter Cup. We have something they'll never have. Something not about towering glass skyscrapers and money and jobs. It's a spirit, a feeling, a connection you don't get in big cities.

It's something so many of those who move away from here, usually in search of greener job pastures, never find again. They go somewhere else, start a new life, but a piece of them stays.

You can leave Buffalo, but you can never leave it behind.

Tuesday, we showed the world why. ●

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND HUBERT
DONALD COCKERHAM

● Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Rev. H. Donald Cockerham for 30 years of dedicated service to the members of Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville. His devoted congregation recently honored him by writing and performing a play about his life, and I am proud to join in their celebration of this milestone anniversary for both Rev. Cockerham and the church body.

Rev. Cockerham, born in McComb, Mississippi, first came to Louisville in 1969, to preach at a foreign missions rally. At that time, he was the minister at Calvary Baptist Church in Chicago, but after filling-in as speaker at Zion one Sunday, Zion began to pursue Cockerham as a candidate for pastor. Although he was serving another church, he said he felt called to accept the invitation to lead Zion's congregation.

By all accounts, Zion flourished under Rev. Cockerham's leadership.

During his 30 years as pastor, the church building changed significantly, with the construction of a new wing. Also, the addition of a new organ and piano have surely been a blessing to the church choir when they perform their well-known presentation of the "Messiah" each Christmas. During Rev. Cockerham's time as pastor, Zion has also significantly increased opportunities for youth through additional ministry programs.

Rev. Cockerham was not only deeply involved in his church, but was also an integral part of the community. Over the years, he has been involved in the WHAS Crusade for Children, a project which raises funds to help with the care and treatment of handicapped children in Kentucky and southern Indiana. Reverend Cockerham has won numerous awards and distinctions during the past 30 years, and was recognized most recently by the Louisville YMCA as a 1999 Adult Black Achiever.

I am certain that the legacy of commitment to faith that Rev. Cockerham has left will continue on, and will encourage and inspire those who follow. Reverend, best wishes for many more years of service, and know that your efforts to better Zion Missionary Baptist Church and the Louisville community will be felt for years to come. On behalf of myself and my colleagues in the United States Senate, thank you for giving so much of yourself for so many others.

Mr. President, I also ask that an article which ran in Louisville's Courier-Journal on June 12, 1999, be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

The article follows:

[From The Courier-Journal, June 12, 1999]

FAITH IN ACTION—CHURCH HONORS PASTOR'S
30 YEARS WITH PLAY

At Zion Missionary Baptist Church, members are busy showing their pastor how much they appreciate his hard work and dedication.

The Rev. H. Donald Cockerham will celebrate 30 years as pastor of the church tomorrow, and the congregation wants this to be a celebration Cockerham will never forget.

"It is rare for a pastor to have remained at a church for 30 years, so I wanted to know how I could make this anniversary more special," said Beverly Jones, anniversary chairwoman.

When Troy Bell, co-chairman of the anniversary committee, suggested that they write a play as a tribute to Cockerham, she couldn't resist.

Bell, who has a background in musical theater, wrote, directed and starred in the play, which is based on the Broadway musical "Purlie Victorious."

"I changed the title to 'Hubert Victorious' because it is our pastor's first name, and I rewrote this play to correlate with the pastor's life," Bell said. "This adaptation was a combination of fiction and non-fiction."

For a month, Bell and others worked to make the play a success.

"I contacted actors and actresses . . . and we went to the DAV to find clothes and wigs reminiscent of the 1960s," Bell said.

They performed the play Monday night at Derby Dinner Playhouse.

Cockerham cried and then he laughed and then he cried again, Bell said.

"It was a hilarious play," Cockerham said. "Although I had known about the play for

weeks, I did not know that it would be about me. I was surprised."

Sheivel Johnson, publicity and program director for the church, said faith explains why Cockerham is still pastor after 30 years.

Cockerham said the congregation's love and compassion for the community makes his job more pleasurable.

"A love affair between the people and myself began, almost," when he came to Zion, he said.

The 68-year-old pastor, a native of McComb, Miss., was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Chicago when he was asked to join Zion in 1969.

"I came to Louisville to preach at a foreign-mission rally. At the time, Zion did not have a pastor," he said. "Their candidate could not speak at their service because he became ill. When the pulpit committee discovered that I was in town, they asked me to speak and I accepted."

Impressed by his sermon, the church body asked him to become their pastor, but he declined initially.

"I did not want to change churches because I was their (Calvary's) first full-time pastor. I had dedicated myself to building that congregation."

But shortly afterward, Cockerham changed his mind, believing that coming to Zion was his fate. "It occurred to me that Zion did not have to ask me to be their pastor simply because they needed one. I believed that the Lord was moving me in a different direction."

In 1969, Cockerham received a unanimous vote by Zion's governing body.

Under Cockerham's leadership, the church has greatly expanded youth activities and made improvements to the building including a new annex and a new organ and piano.

Over the years, he has received many awards, including being named an Adult Black Achiever this year by the YMCA.

For Bell, Cockerham's many accomplishments and recognition come as no surprise.

"If there was ever a pastor that was loved unconditionally by his church family, it is him," he said. "He is the father to the fatherless."

Zion Missionary Baptist has been celebrating Cockerham's anniversary with services all week. The grand finale will begin at 11 a.m. tomorrow, with dinner served after morning worship.●

SANTA CLARA COUNTY HOUSING TRUST FUND

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a remarkable public/private partnership in California's Silicon Valley that is moving aggressively to address a problem which plagues many communities: the shortage of available and affordable housing.

In Silicon Valley, the fast-growing home to some of the Nation's most dynamic and innovative high technology firms, housing costs have risen as dramatically as the supply of available housing has diminished. Since 1992, Santa Clara County has created some 250,000 new jobs; however, only 50,000 new homes and apartments have been constructed. This combination of rapid growth and scarce housing has created a volatile situation in which renters and potential home buyers alike must compete mercilessly for the few units that are to be found. To address this challenge, a coalition of concerned

businesses, nonprofit groups and local governments formed the Santa Clara County Housing Trust Fund.

The Santa Clara County Housing Trust Fund is a broad-based working group consisting of the Community Foundation of Silicon Valley, the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, the Santa Clara County Collaborative on Housing and Homelessness, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, the Housing Action Coalition and the Housing Leadership Council. Through donations from nonprofit organizations, commitments from local governments and financial backing from the business community, the trust fund hopes to raise \$20 million. With this money, the trust fund plans to house more than 1,000 homeless individuals and families, assist in building up to 3,000 new apartments and help nearly 800 first-time home buyers.

I pay special tribute to five companies that recently pledged a remarkable \$1 million to the trust fund, hopefully paving the way for other Silicon Valley businesses to follow suit. On June 10, Adobe Systems, Applied Materials, Cisco Systems, Kaufman & Broad, and the Sollectron Corporation each stepped up to the plate with contributions sure to improve the quality of life in their communities. This is responsible corporate citizenship at its best. I hope that these five companies represent only the first wave of firms that will rise to the challenge of tackling the housing problems in Silicon Valley.●

TRIBUTE TO CELEBRATE NEW HAMPSHIRE CULTURE

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Celebrate New Hampshire Culture, a nonprofit organization formed by the New Hampshire Commission on the Smithsonian Folklife Festival that works in partnership with the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and the Department of Cultural Resources.

I commend the many dedicated volunteers and participants from my State for their hard work in planning, organizing, and demonstrating our New Hampshire culture through the exhibits for this year's Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

Since being elected to Congress 15 years ago, I have had the pleasure of sharing with my fellow Members of Congress why I believe New Hampshire is such a special place in which to live. I am extremely proud that they, and countless others, will now have the opportunity to experience firsthand all the wonderful things New Hampshire has to offer.

In 1994, Mervin Stevens of Walpole began working towards New Hampshire's participation after attending the festival over the years. Curators Lynn Martin and Betty Beland have made Mervin's dream a reality. These two women, along with many volunteers, have worked tirelessly for

months to make sure that the more than 1 million visitors to the Folklife Festival on the Mall this week will have a meaningful and memorable experience.

New Hampshire's diversity, vibrancy, and entrepreneurship will be portrayed through several themes: Music of New Hampshire; Town and Community; Ingenuity and Enterprise; Seasons of Work and Recreation; and Farm, Forests, Mountains, and Sea. The themes and displays will be enhanced through several hands-on examples of living traditions. These exhibits include a 35-foot-long by 15-foot-high covered bridge, a timber-framed barn, a wrought-iron archway, and granite walls.

There will also be two music stages set up. One will be a replica of a town hall and the other of a New England front porch with rocking chairs and benches. These fascinating displays of New Hampshire culture will be celebrated in three ways: First, at this summer's Smithsonian festival. Next, a reenactment will take place next summer during Festival New Hampshire at the Hopkinton State Fairgrounds in Contoocook. Finally, an educational program for schools and communities will be based on the extensive research of culture needed to launch the festival.

Mr. President, I wish to offer my most sincere congratulations to Celebrate New Hampshire Culture and the countless volunteers. Their hard work and dedication will now help show the world what makes New Hampshire the greatest State in America. It is an honor to represent Celebrate New Hampshire Culture and all the people of New Hampshire in the Senate.●

HONORING DOUG AURAND

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my longtime friend, Douglas R. Aurand of Rockford, IL. Doug has served as Winnebago County Treasurer for 28 years and Rockford Township Trustee for 2 years. He retired earlier this month as treasurer.

Doug has been an Illinois resident his entire life, born in Dixon and raised in Pecatonica. He married the former Julie Moore and they have two children, David and Christine. Retirement will give Doug more time to spend with his grandchildren, Billy and Tommy Schwengels.

After graduating from Pecatonica High School, Doug served in the U.S. Air Force for four years. He was first elected to public office as Winnebago County Treasurer in 1970, at the age of 29. He held his office for six consecutive terms, becoming the longest serving elected official in the same office in northern Illinois.

Doug has worked tirelessly for more than 28 years as a public servant and for the taxpayers of Winnebago County. During this time, he has reduced his staff by 60 percent.